

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 102.0003-04000
Customer No. 22882

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: |) | Confirmation No. 6124 |
| Gary Karlin Michelson, M.D. |) | |
| Serial No.: 09/626,636 |) | Group Art Unit: 3731 |
| Filed: July 27, 2000 |) | Examiner: Uyen Ho |
| For: A GUARD FOR USE IN |) | |
| PERFORMING HUMAN |) | |
| INTERBODY SPINAL SURGERY |) | |
| (as amended) |) | |

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final Action or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), the fee of \$180.00 as specified by Section 1.17(p) is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-3726.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant

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reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-3726.

Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP

Date: February 23, 2006

By: 

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OMB 0651-0031

| Substitute for FORM PTO-1449 | | Attorney Docket Number 102.0003-04000 | | Customer No. 22882 | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION | | Applicant Gary Karlin Michelson | | Application Number 09/626,636 | | |
| (Use several sheets if necessary) Sheet 1 of 1 | | Filing Date July 27, 2000 | | Group Art Unit 3731 | | Examiner Uyen Ho |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | 3,682,177 | 8/1972 | Ames et al. | | | |
| | 4,711,609 | 12/1987 | Seefluth | | | |
| | 4,733,995 | 3/1988 | Aebi | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION (YES/NO) |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | | |
| EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant. | | | | | | |